

Geographic Names Standardization Policy for Uruguay

United States Board on Geographic Names – Foreign Names Committee



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1. Introduction

The standardization policies presented below have been prepared to effect consistent treatment of geographic name spellings in U.S. Government data bases, publications, maps, and charts, and are intended to satisfy the statutory requirement levied upon the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) in Public Law 242 of the 80th Congress (43 U.S.C. §§ 364 et seq) to develop principles, policies and procedures for geographic names standardization, and to promulgate decisions with respect to the principles of geographic nomenclature and orthography. The policies described herein are limited to geographic names encountered in Uruguay, and shall be applied to all Uruguayan geographic name and feature records in the Geographic Names Database maintained for U.S. Government purposes by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA).

2. Languages and Language Policy

a. *Demographics*

The July 2011 estimated population of Uruguay is 3.3 million. The population is 88% white, 8% mestizo, 4% black, and practically no Amerindians. The major religious groups are Roman Catholics (47.1%), non-Catholic Christians (11.1%), nondenominational (23.2%), Jewish (0.3%), atheist or agnostic (17.2%), and other (1.1%).¹

b. *Languages*

Spanish (ISO 639-3 code ‘spn’) is the official language of Uruguay. The native populations and their languages found within Uruguay have disappeared. The toponymy of Uruguay remains influenced by these languages, mostly Guaraní, which is incorporated in the many place names and the names of natural features such as rivers, streams and hills.² Furthermore, *Portuñol* (in Spanish) or *Portunhol* (in Portuguese), a mixture of Portuguese and Spanish code-switching, is spoken along the Uruguayan border with Brazil. In this mostly bilingual region, Portuguese may also influence toponyms.

c. *Language Codes*

Geographic features collected from authoritative native source Uruguayan maps should be coded with the language code for Spanish (ISO 639-2 code ‘spn’).

¹ Uruguay. The 2010 CIA World Factbook. < <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/uy.html> > 02 Feb 2012.

² Situación de la normalización de nombres geográficos en Uruguay. United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names Ninth Conference, New York, NY, 2007. <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/unegn/docs/9th-uncsgn-docs/crp/9th_UNCSGN_e-conf-98-crp-86.pdf>. 16 Feb 2012.

d. Geographic Names Standardization

Geographic naming for cartographic purposes falls in the domain of the Servicio Geográfico Militar (SGM) which collects field information, conducts studies of place names, and maintains a geographical names database for the entire state.³

3. Toponymic Policies

a. Orthography

Spanish orthographic conventions are to be followed. For more information, please refer to Spanish orthographic reference material such as *Ortografía y ortotipografía del español actual* by José Martínez de Sousa (2004).

b. Romanization

Romanization is not required.

c. Diacritics

Diacritics are shown in standardized name forms as they appear on native sources and in accordance with Spanish orthography. Uppercase letters in standardized name forms retain diacritics.

In accordance with Spanish orthography, the following diacritics are encountered in standardized name forms in Uruguay:

<u>Character Name</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Unicode Value</u>
Capital A with acute accent	Á	00C1
Capital E with acute accent	É	00C9
Capital I with acute accent	Í	00CD
Capital N with tilde	Ñ	00D1
Capital O with acute accent	Ó	00D3
Capital U with acute accent	Ú	00DA
Capital U with dieresis	Ü	00DC
Small a with acute accent	á	00E1
Small e with acute accent	é	00E9
Small i with acute accent	í	00ED
Small n with tilde	ñ	00F1
Small o with acute accent	ó	00F3
Small u with acute accent	ú	00FA
Small u with dieresis	ü	00FC

d. Generic Terms

A generic term is embedded in the name and describes a feature. Examples include words such as ‘river,’ ‘hill,’ and ‘lake.’ Except in cases in which the generic type does not

³ Situación de la normalización de nombres geográficos en Uruguay.

identify the feature type, generics appearing in standardized name forms should be considered true generics. Otherwise, the term is considered to be a false generic and should not be collected as a generic. Generics are not collected for populated places in Uruguay.

A glossary of generic terms for Uruguay is found in Appendix A.

e. *Hyphenation, Capitalization, and Spelling*

The definite article (*el, la, lo, los, las*) is generally shown in approved names as found on native sources. When source evidence regarding the capitalization of the definite article is mixed, names of associated features, if present, will be examined to assist in the decision. When a name is encountered in all capital letters, a non-initial definite article will be in lower case when the standardized name form is derived. In the absence of conclusive evidence, non-initial definite articles are written in lowercase letters in the standardized name form.

f. *Numbers*

Names containing numerals as integral parts, both cardinal and ordinal, should be treated according to the following principles:

- Arabic numerals are ordinarily expanded in Spanish. Examples: *4 Caminos* (on source) is rendered *Cuatro Caminos*; *2da Palma* (on source) is rendered *Segunda Palma*.
- Roman numerals are retained throughout.
- These principles apply to both initial and non-initial numerals.

g. *Optional Long and Short Forms*

Short forms are not added to 'Variant' names and should be removed when a formerly 'Approved' name becomes a 'Variant' name.

Administrative division names are accorded long and short forms, e.g., Departamento de Montevideo [long form]; Montevideo [short form].

Long and short forms of names of populated places are approved when supported by official evidence, e.g., Colonia del Sacramento [long form]; Colonia [short form].

Railroad station names that appear on official sources with the generic term *estación* are given long and short forms as supported by the evidence.

Example: Estación Sayago [long form]; Sayago [short form].

Where official maps show more than one populated place with the same name in the same *municipio* (second-order administrative division), a special effort is to be made to obtain distinguishing long forms from census lists and other official sources.

h. Unique Linguistic Situations

Names Containing the Conjunction "o"

Some sources may show two or more names for a feature joined by the conjunction "o," meaning "or" (e.g., Río Rojo o Colorado). For the purposes of standardization, only one name is selected as the official standard name. The choice of name as standard will depend on the weight of evidence. If there is no further evidence, one should use the first as the official standard name. In accordance with standard policy, the other names for the feature will be considered variants.

i. Abbreviations

The following is a list of abbreviations are of generics that are regularly found on Uruguayan cartographic products. Abbreviations must be spelled out in the Geographic Names Database (GNDB).

<u>Abbreviated form</u>	<u>Unabbreviated Form</u>
A.	Arroyo
B.	Bahía
Bco.	Banco
Bo.	Boca
C.	Cabo, Cayo, or Cerro
Co.	Cerro
Ca.	Cañada
Cdon.	Cordón
Cem.	Cementerio
Clla.	Cuchilla
Cord.	Cordillera
Dpto.	Departamento
Ensa.	Ensenada
Esc.	Escuela
Est.	Estación, Estero
Fte.	Fuerte
G.	Golfo
Hac.	Hacienda
I(s).	Isla(s)
Ilte(s).	Islote(s)
L.	Loma
L., Lag.	Lago or Laguna
Mo.	Morro
Mte.	Monte
Nvdo.	Nevado
P.	Playa, Presa, or Pico
Pco.	Pico
Pen.	Península
Pta.	Punta

Pte.	Puente
Pto.	Puerto
Pvcia.	Provincia
Q., Queb., Qda.	Quebrada
R.	Río
Reg.	Región
S.	Sierra
Serr.	Serranía

4. Political Geographic Policy

a. Country Name and Capital

Country Names

Conventional long form:	Oriental Republic of Uruguay
Conventional short form:	Uruguay
Approved long form:	República Oriental del Uruguay
Approved short form:	Uruguay

Capital

Approved name:	Montevideo
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b. First-Order Administrative Divisions

For an official administrative map of Uruguay, see Appendix B.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Generic</u>	<u>Seat</u>	<u>FIPS 10-4</u>	<u>ISO 3166-2</u>
1.	Artigas	departamento	Artigas	UY01	UY-AR
2.	Canelones	departamento	Canelones	UY02	UY-CA
3.	Cerro Largo	departamento	Melo	UY03	UY-CL
4.	Colonia	departamento	Colonia (del Sacramento)	UY04	UY-CO
5.	Durazno	departamento	Durazno	UY05	UY-DU
6.	Flores	departamento	Trinidad	UY06	UY-FS
7.	Florida	departamento	Florida	UY07	UY-FD
8.	Lavalleja	departamento	Minas	UY08	UY-LA
9.	Maldonado	departamento	Maldonado	UY09	UY-MA
10.	Montevideo	departamento	Montevideo	UY10	UY-MO
11.	Paysandú	departamento	Paysandú	UY11	UY-PA
12.	Río Negro	departamento	Fray Bentos	UY12	UY-RN
13.	Rivera	departamento	Rivera	UY13	UY-RV
14.	Rocha	departamento	Rocha	UY14	UY-RO
15.	Salto	departamento	Salto	UY15	UY-SA
16.	San José	departamento	San José (de Mayo)	UY16	UY-SJ
17.	Soriano	departamento	Mercedes	UY17	UY-SO
18.	Tacuarembó	departamento	Tacuarembó	UY18	UY-TA

19. Treinta y Tres departamento Treinta y Tres UY19 UY-TT

c. Disputed Territories

Note: For the latest country specific boundary dispute information, visit the U.S. Department of State's Boundaries and Sovereignty Encyclopedia, or B.A.S.E., at <http://base.us-state.osis.gov/>.

5. Source Material

The Servicio Geográfico Militar (SGM) is the preferred authority for Uruguayan map and chart sources. In addition, there are other Uruguayan government agencies and commercial producers. The following is a listing of source material, prioritized according to recommended usage for geographic name selection. All items are available at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) Research Center, except where noted:

1. 1:50,000-scale map series, Servicio Geográfico Militar (SGM), Montevideo, 1981-1994.
2. 1:100,000-scale map series, Servicio Geográfico Militar (SGM), Montevideo, 1974.
3. 1:200,000-scale map series, Servicio Geográfico Militar (SGM), Montevideo, 1974.
4. 1:2,000,000-scale maps of Uruguay, Servicio Geográfico Militar (SGM), Montevideo, 1981-1994.

Other sources of information:

1. BGN Gazetteer of Uruguay, 1993.
3. Map series of various scales, Servicio Geográfico Militar (SGM), and other government and private agencies, 1970's to 1990's.
4. Servicio Geográfico Militar (SGM), Website:
<http://www.ejercito.mil.uy/cal/sgm/index.htm>
5. Plano Parcial de Montevideo/Mapa de Rutas de la República Oriental del Uruguay. Lubricantes ANCAP. Distribuidor de ANCAP S.A., 1992 Edition.

Appendix A – The following is a glossary of generic terms that one may encounter in Uruguay. Please note that this list is incomplete and only represents the most frequently occurring generics.

<u>Spanish Generic</u>	<u>Designation Name</u>	<u>Designation Code</u>
acequía, canal	canal	CNL
aeropuerto	airport	AIRP
arrocera	farm	FRM
arroyo	channel	CHN
arroyo, cañada, río, zanja	stream	STM
bahía	bay	BAY
bajo	shoal	SHOL
bañados	marsh	MRSB
banco	bank	BNK
barranca	cliff	CLF
bosque, selva	forest	FRST
cabo	cape	CAPE
campos	field	FLD
caño	tidal creek	CRKT
cataratas	waterfall	FLLS
cerro	hill	HILL
ciénaga,	marsh	MRSB
ciénaga, laguna	lagoon	LGN
cuchilla, fila, filo	ridge	RDGE
delta	delta	DLTA
departamento	first-order administrative division (department)	ADM1
dique	dry dock	DCKD
embalse	reservoir	RSV
embarcadero	docks	DCK
ensenada	cove	COVE
escollera	breakwater	BRKW
estrecho	strait	STRT
estuario	estuary	ESTY
golfo	gulf	GULF
isla	island	ISL
lago	lake	LK
llano, sabana	plain	PLN
mesa	mesa	MESA
monte, sierra, cordillera	mountain	MT
muelle	pier	PIER
municipio	second-order administrative division (municipality)	ADM2
paso	pass	PASS
península	peninsula	PEN

picacho, pico
playa
puente
puerto
punta
roca

peak
beach
bridge
port
point
rock

PK
BCH
BDG
PRT
PT
RK

Appendix B – Administrative Map of Uruguay⁴



⁴ Map of Uruguay's First-Order Administrative Divisions. United States Department of State. <http://base.us-state.osis.gov/images/Uruguay_802397.pdf>. 16 Feb. 2012.